

Weekly Column for June 7, 2007

Welcome to summer! Or at least what seems like summer.

We have a potpourri bag today. Tonight is a very important Council meeting for a number of reasons, all of which pertain\ to quality of life in Troy.

First, the City council will be voting on a funding plan we announced last month that will allow the City of Troy to pave more than \$2.5 million in roads this year. For the better part of three years, we have strived to make sure the City is on solid financial footing, and get to the point where we are comfortable pursuing an ambitious plan such as this. That time is now.

The Council will also be voting on a large section of funding that will allow the City to make significant improvements to the parks in Troy this summer.

Finally, the Council is being asked to sell a City owned property, the former Haskell School, in North Central Troy, to a group of developers from Boston, MA that plan to turn the building into eight loft-style condominiums. It is an exciting project that you will be hearing much more about in the coming months.

Amazingly, tonight at 5:30 p.m., we will be talking about a different loft-style condominium project, this one at the former Mooradian's Furniture on River Street, just north of the Collar City Bridge. I have mentioned this project before in the Weekly Column, and it is just another example of the great things happening here.

Remember, the people of Troy have heard it all before, but the time is now right for everyone to see it all.

If you want an in depth look at the project, check out today's Times Union, which talks about all the excitement:

<http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=595811&category=BUSINESS&BCCode=&newsdate=6/7/2007>

And for even more excitement from the Times Union this week, check out this story about the new hotel and parking garage set to move forward just south of the Mooradian's Project:

<http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=595548&category=REGION&newsdate=6/6/2007>

It is a very exciting time in Troy right now.

Please do not forget about the two big events coming up in the next ten days. First, the 40th Annual Flag Day Parade steps off at 1 p.m. this Sunday. If you've been before, you know what a great time it is. If you never experienced this bit of Troy patriotism, do not miss out. This year's event promises to be spectacular.

And of course next weekend is the 4th Annual River Street Festival. We talked about the lineup two weeks ago. Well, we have another to add. Local legends Blotto have been added to bill, making this an event they are sure to be talking about for years to come. They Might Be Giants, Blotto, Stars of Track and Field, Mink, and Last November. And that's just the music. Don't forget to mark your calendars for June 16th from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Harry J Tutunjian
Mayor of Troy